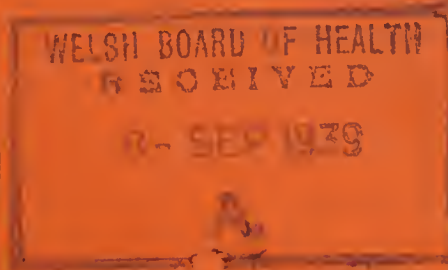


*Whitehead*



Pontypridd Urban District Council.



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

FOR THE YEAR

1938.



**A. G. M. SEVERN, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.,**

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical  
Officer and Medical Superintendent of the  
Isolation and Smallpox Hospitals.





Pontypridd Urban District Council.



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# Pontypridd Urban District Council.

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**Chairman of the Council :**

Councillor WALTER COLLIER, J.P.

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## **COMMITTEES, 1938-1939.**

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**Health Committee :**

Chairman : Councillor C. H. JAMES.

Councillor WALTER COLLIER.

„ A. J. CHAMPION.  
„ H. DARKE.  
„ DANIEL FRANK EVANS J.P.  
„ H. GARDNER.  
„ JOHN HOWELL.  
„ E. P. JAMES.  
„ C. H. JAMES.  
„ T. L. JENKINS.  
„ D. T. JONES.  
„ J. COLENZO JONES M.B.E.  
„ WILLIAM JONES.  
„ H. G. JOSHUA.  
„ EVAN MORGAN.  
„ GEORGE PAGET.  
„ E. M. PHILLIPS.  
„ J. POWDERHILL, C.C.  
„ G. PUGH.  
„ Mrs. BLODWEN RANDELL.  
„ D. J. RICHARDS.  
„ G. H. ROGERS.  
„ EDWIN ROWBOTHAM.  
„ A. SEYMOUR.  
„ HOPKIN SMITH, C.C.  
„ A. R. WATKINS.

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## **Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.**

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Chairman : Councillor Mrs. B. RANDELL.

The Members of the Health Committee, together with the following co-opted Members :—

Mrs. W. B. FLOYD.	Mrs. W. JONES.
Mrs. L. I. HOBBS.	Mrs. M. M. MARRAN.
Mrs. A. JOHN.	Mrs. H. L. PORCHER.
Mrs. A. JONES.	Mrs. G. TOOMEY.

Solicitor—Clerk of the Council: Mr. H. LEONARD PORCHER.

**Pontypridd Representatives on the Pontypridd and Caerphilly  
Joint Smallpox Hospital Committee :**

**CHAIRMAN OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE :**

Councillor E. ROWBOTHAM.

Councillor A. SEYMOUR.

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**Public Health Department Staff.**

**Medical Officer of Health and Medical Superintendent of the  
Isolation and Smallpox Hospitals :**

A. G. M. SEVERN, M.A. (Camb.), M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,  
D.P.H.

**Assistant Medical Officer :**

DORIS WILLIAMS, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

**Specialist Medical Officers (part-time) :**

**Orthopaedic Surgeon :**

J. BERRY HAYCRAFT, M.B., Ch.B. (Ed.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.).

**Ophthalmic Surgeon :**

BERNARD GLUCK, M.A., M.B., M.Ch., D.O.M.S.,  
F.R.C.S. (Ed.).

**Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon :**

R. D. OWEN, B.Sc., F.R.C.S. (Ed.).

**Medical Officers (part-time) :**

SYBIL M. MORGAN, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

GLADYS M. AITKEN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

GRACE M. PHILLIPS, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.),  
M.C.O.G.

**Dental Surgeon :**

CHAS. L. SAIES, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Retired August, 1938).

J. I. HUGHES, L.D.S. (Commenced September, 1938).

**Senior Sanitary Inspector :**

a.b. D. JAMES JONES, F.S.I.A. (Retired March, 1938).

**Sanitary Inspectors :**

- a. MICHAEL DALEY.
- a.b. D. GEORGE DAVIES.
- a.b. JOHN EWART DAVIES.

**Caretaker, Public Abattoir :**

R. J. STROUD.

**Ambulance Driver and Disinfecter :**

A. H. SEYMOUR.

**Health Visitors :**

- e.d.e.f. BEATRICE M. DAVIES.
- e.f. FANNY EVANS.
- e.d. DOROTHY C. HOPKIN.
- e.d.g. GWENDA M. WILLIAMS (Orthopaedic).

**Chief Clerk :**

\*E. J. LEWIS.

**Clerks :**

- |                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| *J. SOULSBY.   | *K. WRIDE.       |
| *A. L. GLAVES. | ETHEL M. HARVEY. |
| I. EVANS.      | *D. E. LEWIS.    |

\*Engaged also on clerical work in connection with the School Medical Service.

**Matron of Isolation Hospital :**

d.e. EDITH CUTTER.

- 
- a. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Sanitary Inspectors.
  - b. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
  - c. Certificate of Central Midwives' Board.
  - d. State Registered Nurse.
  - e. Registered Fever Nurse.
  - f. Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Health Visitors and School Nurses.
  - g. Orthopaedic Trained Nurse.

## TELEPHONE NUMBERS.

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Public Health Offices, Municipal Buildings—Pontypridd 2007.

Central Clinic, Ynysangharad Park—Pontypridd 2007 (Ext.).

Medical Officer of Health (Private Residence)—Pontypridd 2368.

Assistant Medical Officer (Private Residence) Pontypridd 2532.

Tonteg Isolation Hospital, Llantwit Vardre—Newtown Llantwit 10.

Joint Smallpox Hospital, Mynydd Mayo—Senghenydd 43.

Ambulance Driver and Disinfector—Pontypridd 2441.

Public Vaccinator, The Ash Grove—Pontypridd 2153.

Vaccination Officer, Church Street—Pontypridd 2058.

Pontypridd Burial Board and Cremation Authority, Gelli-wastad Road—Pontypridd 2352.

Medical Referee, Pontypridd Cremation Authority—Pontypridd 2368.





Pontypridd Urban District Council.

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Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health.

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Public Health Department,  
Municipal Buildings,

Pontypridd.

July, 1939.

To the Chairman and Members of the Pontypridd Urban  
District Council.

Mrs. Randell and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your consideration the Annual Report of the Health Department for the year 1938, arranged in accordance with instructions contained in Circular 1728 (Wales) of the Ministry of Health.

The late publication of this report is regrettably due to urgent additional duties which, of necessity, have been undertaken by my staff in connection with national preparedness, during the past months of tension in foreign affairs.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. G. M. SEVERN,

Medical Officer of Health.

### SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS.

Population (Mid-year, 1938) as estimated by Registrar General .....	38,610
Population (Census, 1931) .....	42,717
Area .....	(acres) 8,140
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) .....	9,097
Number of families or separate occupiers (Census, 1931) .....	10,178
Rateable Value (end of 1938) .....	£148,397
Sum represented by a Penny Rate .....	£542

### SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

#### BIRTHS :—

Legitimate Males, 260. Females, 267. Total, 527	} 551
Illegitimate Males, 12. Females, 12. Total, 24	
Birth Rate .....	14.3

DEATHS :— Males, 308. Females, 221. Total ....	529
Death Rate .....	13.7
Percentage of Total Deaths occurring in Public Institutions .....	26.5

#### DEATHS OF INFANTS under 1 year :—

Legitimate Males, 28. Females, 16. Total, 44	} 48
Illegitimate Males, 1. Females, 3. Total, 4	
Infant Death Rate, per 1,000 Live Births :—	
Legitimate, 77.8. Illegitimate, 166.7. Total ....	87.1
Neo-Natal Death Rate (up to 4 weeks) Total ....	47.2

#### STILL-BIRTHS :—

Legitimate Males, 16. Females, 25. Total 41	} 42
Illegitimate Males, 0. Females, 1. Total 1	

#### MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Deaths from puerperal causes :	Rate per 1,000 (live and still Deaths. births).	
(1) Puerperal sepsis .....	1	1.68
(2) Other puerperal causes..	3	5.06
Total .....	4	6.74
	Total Deaths.	Death-rate per 1,000 Population.
Cancer (all ages) .....	50	1.30
Measles (all ages) .....	0	0.00
Whooping Cough (all ages) ..	1	0.03
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)..	5	0.13

TABLE I.

**VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE WHOLE DISTRICT DURING  
1938 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.**

Year.	Population.		Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
	For Birth Rate.	For Death Rate.	Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.	Of Non-Residents Registered in the District.	Of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 year of age.		At all Ages.	
									Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Population.
1929	45320	45320	808	17.8	617	13.6	109	57	54	66.8	565	12.4
1930	45320	45320	777	17.1	510	11.2	107	68	52	66.9	471	10.4
1931	42950	42950	710	16.5	595	13.8	119	87	53	74.6	563	13.1
1932	42670	42670	709	16.4	599	14.0	112	58	49	69.1	545	12.8
1933	42580	42580	758	17.8	591	13.9	133	88	63	83.1	546	12.8
1934	42020	42020	728	17.3	577	13.4	151	92	49	67.3	518	12.3
1935	41240	41240	692	16.8	604	14.6	164	64	42	60.7	504	12.2
1936	40100	40100	627	15.6	623	15.5	152	54	33	52.6	525	13.1
1937	39070	39070	637	16.3	646	16.3	166	89	44	69.0	569	14.5
1938	38610	38610	551	14.3	585	15.2	146	90	48	87.1	529	13.7

### NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The Urban District of Pontypridd is situated in Glamorganshire, at the convergence of the Rhondda, Aberdare and Merthyr valleys. The River Taff traverses the area, together with its main tributary, the River Rhondda. The district is hilly, the climate mild, and the rainfall considerable.

The Parliamentary Division of Pontypridd returns one member to the House of Commons. The prosperity of the inhabitants fluctuates largely with the demand for coal, and the depression in this industry during the last ten or twelve years has led to extensive unemployment and large-scale migration; smaller numbers are engaged in stone quarries,

and iron works, and in the various new factories devoted to light industries which comprise the Treforest Trading Estate, a Government subsidised scheme, situated mainly within the southern boundary of the urban area.

The town itself, which lies twelve miles from Cardiff, is the business centre of a large area, and is usually crowded with shoppers on market days, which are held on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

## HOSPITAL PROVISION.

A. (1). **Fever.** The Council's Isolation Hospital at Tonteg is situated about three miles from the centre of Pontypridd. The hospital consists of two pavilions and a cubicle block, forty beds in all, together with a nurses' home and administrative block. The nursing staff comprises the matron, one charge nurse, two assistant nurses and four probationer nurses.

(2). **Smallpox.** The Smallpox Hospital, shared in common with the Caerphilly Urban District Council, with accommodation for 36 patients and five staff, is situated on Mynydd Mayo in an isolated but healthy position several miles from the centre of Pontypridd. The hospital is supported by the above two Urban District Councils in equal shares.

A resident caretaker, together with his wife, herself an experienced nurse, are appointed jointly to look after the hospital premises. Suitable quarters, with telephone, are provided.

The Pontypridd Council have resolved, subject to general agreement, that in times of emergency, and during periods of freedom from smallpox, this hospital may be utilised for the treatment of convalescent cases of other infectious diseases.

A considerable number of children recovering from scarlet fever were treated here from the commencement of the year until May 14th, after which date this hospital remained closed.

B. (1). **Tuberculosis.** Throughout Wales provision is made for dealing with tuberculosis by the King Edward VII. Welsh National Memorial Association; their (a) Central Dispensary, (b) Sanatoria for early cases of tuberculosis, and (c) Hospitals for advanced cases, are available for tuberculosis

cases occurring within the Pontypridd Urban area. The County Council make a contribution to the funds of the Association. The closest co-operation is maintained between the local Health Department and the King Edward VII. Welsh National Memorial Association.

(2). **Maternity.** The Pontypridd Council have made arrangements whereby complicated and necessitous obstetric cases occurring within the area are received by the Royal Infirmary, Cardiff, and the Llwynypia Hospital; the latter hospital being under the control of the Glamorgan County Council. During the course of the year 84 such patients were admitted to Llwynypia Hospital and 9 were received by the Cardiff Royal Infirmary.

In addition the Central Homes Infirmary, Pontypridd, accepted 17 cases, admitted to this institution mainly on account of unsatisfactory home conditions.

These numbers represent a total increase of 29 cases as compared with those of the previous year, and a total increase of 54 above that for the year 1936.

Similar facilities are available at the first two hospitals for the reception of cases of puerperal pyrexia, and during 1938 one patient was sent to the Llwynypia Hospital by this Authority under the Regulations governing this disease.

(3). **Children and General.** The Pontypridd and District Hospital is available for emergency surgical cases. This hospital is favourably situated and is fully equipped with a children's ward, general and isolation wards, operating theatres, X-ray department and nurses' home.

The present accommodation is 32 beds, and during 1938, children of school age to the number of 31, and five children below school age were admitted as in-patients; while a total of 43 children were treated in the hospital's out-patient department.

The Hospital is not rate-aided; a voluntary annual contribution of twenty guineas is made by the Pontypridd Council.

The Royal Infirmary, Cardiff, also receives a small number of children from this district requiring medical or surgical in-patient treatment. Arrangements exist for the supply of in-patient and out-patient letters to suitable deserving cases in this locality.

(4). **Other.** The General and Maternity Hospital, administered by the Glamorgan County Council, is situated in Courthouse Street, Pontypridd. The Institution contains the following hospital accommodation :—

Maternity .....	15
Children's Wards .....	29
Nurseries .....	42
V.D. Wards .....	8
Scabies Wards .....	12
Sick Wards.....	127
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Total No. of Beds and Cots.....	233
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## **INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS.**

There is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children in the district other than that provided by the Glamorgan County Council at the Central Homes, Courthouse Street, Pontypridd.

## **AMBULANCE FACILITIES.**

(A). **For Infectious Diseases.** The Council's motor ambulance provides transport for infectious cases to the Councils' Isolation Hospitals.

(B). **For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases.** All the colliery companies are required to provide suitable ambulances. One large colliery company has made arrangements with the Order of St. John of Jerusalem for a motor ambulance service. The cars of the Order are also available for any persons who require them on payment of the necessary charges.

(C). **For Maternity Patients.** Transport for maternity cases to hospital is provided by the motor ambulance of the Llwynypia Hospital. A suitable privately owned ambulance car is also available locally for hire when required.

The above Ambulance services may be regarded as adequate to the needs of the district and population.



## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Particulars are given in the following table :—

TABLE II.

Name.	Situation.	Nature of Accommodation.	By whom provided.
Maternity & Child Welfare Centre (Town Ward).	Central Clinic, Ynysangharad Park, Pontypridd.	Consulting, Infant weighing and Waiting Rooms.	Pontypridd Urban District Council.
Maternity & Child Welfare Centre (Rhydyfelin Ward)	Ebenezer Chapel Vestry, Rhydyfelin.	Do.	Do.
Maternity & Child Welfare Centre (Cilfynydd Ward).	Primitive Methodist Chapel Vestry, Cilfynydd.	Do.	Do.
Maternity & Child Welfare Centre (Rhondda Ward).	Workmen's Hall and Institute, Hopkinstown.	Do.	Do.
Ante-Natal Clinic (Town Ward).	Central Clinic, Ynysangharad Park, Pontypridd.	Consulting and Waiting Rooms.	Do.
Minor Gynaecological and Birth Control Clinic.	Central Clinic, Ynysangharad Park, Pontypridd.	Consulting and Waiting Rooms.	Do.
School Clinic.	Central Clinic, Ynysangharad Park, Pontypridd.	Consulting, Treatment and Waiting Rooms.	Pontypridd Education Committee.
Tuberculosis Dispensary.	Courthouse Street, Pontypridd.	Consulting, Treatment, Waiting Rooms, and Radiographic Department.	Welsh National Memorial Association.
Venereal Diseases Clinic.	Central Homes, Courthouse Street, Pontypridd.	Consulting, Treatment and Waiting Rooms.	Glamorgan County Council.
Clinic for Nervous Disorders.	Central Clinic, Ynysangharad Park, Pontypridd.	Consulting and Waiting Rooms.	Do.

## BIRTH CONTROL AND MINOR GYNAECOLOGICAL CLINIC.

The scope of the Council's former Birth Control Clinic now includes the diagnosis and treatment of minor diseases of women, and this Clinic is administered by the Health Committee.

The medical staff give advice on birth-control methods to married women where medical reasons exist which make such advice desirable and even essential. Cases of advanced heart disease, tuberculosis and kidney diseases, amongst other indications, occurring in married women come within the purview of this clinic, even though these patients may not be eligible to come within the Council's Maternity and Child Welfare services.

Dr. Sybil Morgan is the medical officer in charge of this clinic, attended by one of the Council's nurses.

The consulting gynaecologist appointed for this purpose is Mr. G. I. Strachan, F.R.C.S. (Eng.), Gynaecologist Royal Infirmary, Cardiff, and cases are referred to him when necessary. Should operation be advised, patients are accommodated at the Pontypridd and District Hospital, the cost being defrayed in necessitous cases by the Council and otherwise in accordance with Scale No. 2.

Dr. Kingsley Lewis, a member of the Hon. Staff of the above Hospital, is the anaesthetist for the time being.

Additional assistance necessary at the Clinic is supplied by voluntary helpers, who have devoted considerable time to this important work. One of these ladies, Mrs. Archibald Daniel, has kindly submitted the following brief report:—

“Twenty-two sessions have been held, at which there have been 227 attendances. Of these, 54 were new patients and 173 return visits.

Thirty-nine of the new patients received advice on Birth Control, 12 received treatment for gynaecological reasons (including sterility), 3 received advice on birth control and gynaecological treatment, and 2 were found to be already pregnant, and were advised to attend the Antenatal Clinic.

Six patients who, on examination, were found to be suffering from serious gynaecological conditions were referred to doctors for operative or other treatment.



Thirty-five of the new patients attending the clinic were referred from the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics and Ante-natal Clinics by Dr. Doris Williams, Dr. Grace Phillips, and Dr. Gladys Aitken, and the remainder were sent by the following medical practitioners: Dr. Edward Evans, Dr. B. E. James, Dr. Arthur Jenkins, Dr. Kingsley Lewis, Dr. Mitchell, Dr. Murphy, Dr. Edward Rees, Dr. D. G. Williams, and Dr. Tudor Williams.

A steady increase in the number of attendances was noticeable during the last six months of the year. A comparison of the figures with those of the corresponding period in the previous year is as follows:—

July to December, 1937—70 attendances.

July to December, 1938—116 attendances.”

Arrangements exist with the Glyncorrwg Urban District Council for giving birth control advice to appropriate cases referred for this purpose by the Medical Officer of Health of that Authority. No patients from Glyncorrwg were, however, sent in 1938.

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## Maternity and Child Welfare.

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**Infant Welfare Centres.** There are at present four permanent Infant Welfare Centres holding regular sessions in the town. One centre serves the Rhydyfelin and Tre-forest district, and is held weekly. Another is situated in Cilfynydd and meets on alternate weeks. This centre serves the inhabitants of the northern section of Pontypridd.

A centre at Hopkinstown provides for the Maesycod, Hopkinstown and Trehafod districts; sessions being held on alternate weeks.

The main clinic is held weekly in the Council's Central Clinic premises, where ample accommodation and every facility are available. This clinic meets the needs of the Town Ward and those persons living in the central area. The attendances are, on the whole, satisfactory, and the four centres are much appreciated by a large number of mothers who bring their babies regularly to the clinics and take a keen interest in their progress and welfare. The total attendances at the four centres during the year was 6,260, as compared with 7,047 in 1937. Dried milk and other dietary

products are sold at the infant welfare centres at approximately cost price, but no one is allowed to purchase food unless it is prescribed by the Medical Officer in charge.

The days and times of meeting and the average attendances per session at each centre are set out below :—

Centre.	Day and Time of Meeting.	Average Attendances.
1. Town Centre	....Tuesday, 2 p.m. ....	50
2. Rhydyfelin Centre	..Wednesday, 2 p.m. ....	44
3. Cilfynydd Centre	..Alternate Fridays, 2 p.m.....	40
4. Rhondda Centre	..Alternate Tuesdays, 2 p.m...	28

**The Pre-School Child.** Children aged between two and five years, not attending school, are medically examined at the above clinics and a complete medical record card, similar to those used in the routine examinations of the School Medical service, is filled in by the Medical Officer in respect to each child. Dental and other defects are referred for treatment and the parents are advised as to their children's health. This scheme has been devised in order to bridge any possible gap between the baby stage and the Infants' School. Parents are responding fairly well in bringing their young children for these examinations. It should be noted, however, that in this area a large proportion of those children above three years of age are admitted to the Infant Departments of the Council's elementary schools. Of the total number of children, 6,896, on the registers of the Pontypridd Elementary Schools at the end of December, 1938 (excluding the Special School), no less than 693 were under five years of age.

**Sale of Dried Milk, etc., at Clinics.** The total value of dried milk, cod liver oil emulsion and vitamin preparations sold at cost price during the year ended December 31st, 1938, amounted to £773.

**Ante-Natal Clinic.** Sessions are held in the Central Clinic premises each Thursday afternoon at two o'clock. The rooms used for the purpose are provided with dressing cubicles and are otherwise suitably equipped for the purpose.

The attendances are satisfactory and represent 87 per cent. of the total notified births during this period.

The co-operation of the local midwives and medical practitioners has enhanced the value of this service.

Total attendances for 1938 :—

First visits .....	517
Re-visits .....	1,537
	<hr/>
	2,054
	<hr/>
Average attendances per session	40

Comparative figures for 1937 are :—

First visits .....	407
Re-visits .....	1,024
	<hr/>
	1,431
	<hr/>

### **Infant Life Protection. Children Act, 1908 ; Children and Young Persons Acts, 1932 and 1933.**

In pursuance of the recommendations of the Local Government Act, 1929, on April 1st, 1930, in accordance with the Council's decision, the administration of Part I. of the Children's Act, 1908, formerly discharged by Poor Law Authorities was delegated to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, the decisions of such Committee to be subject to confirmation by the Council. Accordingly the Medical Officer of Health was designated the Officer to whom notices required by the Children Act, 1908, shall be sent, and the Council's Health Visitors were appointed Infant Protection Visitors under the Act.

No deliberate contraventions of any of the provisions of those parts of the Acts for which the Local Authority is responsible were reported during the year.

### **Supply of Milk to Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Young Children (Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918).**

The administration of the scheme in connection with the Council's maternity and child welfare centres and ante-natal clinics was continued substantially on the same lines as in previous years. The total cost of fresh milk, dried milk and cod liver oil preparations supplied free for the twelve months ended 31st March, 1939, amounted to approximately

£655. The comparative cost for the previous year was £764. The 2,811 applications granted were divided as follows :—

	Year 1938— 39.	Year 1937— 38.
Expectant and nursing mothers receiving a supply of milk free of charge for one month .....	847	1,060
Children under five years of age receiving a supply of milk or cod-liver oil preparations free of charge for one month .....	2,122	2,665

Grants free of cost under this scheme are made to :

- (a) Expectant mothers during the later months of pregnancy.
- (b) Mothers who are breast-feeding their infants.
- (c) Children up to school age.

Foods are given free only on medical grounds when the family income, after deducting rent, is below the scale denoting necessity, which has been adopted by the Council in concurrence with the Ministry of Health.

Dried milk preparations, many of which are medicated or fortified by the addition of extra vitamins, continue to be widely used in our clinics.

Where fresh milk is prescribed "Tuberculin Tested" quality only is supplied by one or another of the local milk vendors licensed to retail this grade of milk. This arrangement, which was first introduced in 1933, has been continued throughout the year.

The milk, dried or fresh, is granted for a period of 28 days, after which the application has to be renewed and the family circumstances again reviewed. The quantity supplied is usually one pint per person per day in the case of fresh milk, or an equivalent amount of dried milk.

The Council have also authorised the free provision of cod-liver oil preparations, etc., when prescribed by the medical officer to children below school age who show any indication of rickets or other deficiency diseases. The same scale of income denoting necessity is in operation in these cases as pertains in the supply of milk.

**Health Visiting.** The following is a summary of the work of the Health Visitors during the year :—

To expectant mothers : First visits .....	256
Total visits .....	522
To children under 1 year of age : First visits ....	507
Total visits ....	1825
To children between the age of 1 and 5 years : Total visits .....	2276
Visits to investigate infant deaths and still-births ....	20
Visits and re-visits to notified cases of ophthalmia neonatorum .....	36
Visits to notified cases of puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia .....	8
Visits to convalescent cases of scarlet fever and diphtheria after discharge from the Isolation Hospital	629
Miscellaneous visits .....	324

The Health Visitors, if required, have carried out the necessary nursing in cases of ophthalmia neonatorum when the midwife has been prohibited from attending on account of the risk of transmitting infection.

All births notified to the Medical Officer of Health under the Notification of Births Acts, 1907 and 1915, are visited by the Health Visitors as soon as the doctor or midwife has ceased to attend. Infants are visited five times during the first year; more frequent visits being made in the case of delicate babies. Children over 12 months are, as far as possible, seen every six months until they commence attending school.

#### PROVISION FOR OPHTHALMIC TREATMENT.

The Council provide ophthalmic treatment for errors of refraction, squint, and other eye diseases in children under school age attending the maternity and child welfare centres. The examinations are carried out at the School Clinic by the Ophthalmic Surgeon in the part-time employment of the Council. Free spectacles are provided when the income of the parents falls below an approved scale. The number referred to the oculist is not large as a considerable portion of



the children above the age of three years attend school and therefore come under the Education Committee's scheme.

Children examined during 1938.....	7
Number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed .....	1
Number of spectacles provided :—	
Under Authority's scheme (free) .....	Nil.
Otherwise .....	1

The eye defects diagnosed in the above children by the Ophthalmic Surgeon are as follows :—

(a) Errors of refraction :	
(1) Hypermetropia with or without Astigmatism .....	2
(b) Squint :	
(1) Internal .....	5
(2) External .....	Nil.
(c) Other Diseases or Defects :	
(1) Epicanthus and Congenital Ptosis....	1

## PROVISION FOR DENTAL TREATMENT.

The Council provide for the dental treatment of children under school age and mothers attending the maternity and child welfare centres. Sessions are held once or more a week. In addition to extractions and fillings, dentures are provided for expectant and nursing mothers. Nitrous oxide gas is administered as an anaesthetic where indicated. Patients are asked to pay 6d. per attendance for extractions, which is waived in cases of necessity, but no charge is made for the dentures supplied if the family income is below the approved scale adopted for this purpose.

The Dental Surgeon submits the following record of the work done under this heading in the course of the year :—  
 “Herewith I beg to report on the work of the Dental Clinic in this section during 1938.

The tabulated results are as follows :—

(a) Number of sessions held .....	64
(b) Attendances for treatment—women.....	403
Attendances for treatment—children ....	25
	428

(c) Absentees and postponed visits.....	108	
(d) Fillings : (i) in temporary teeth .....	2}	11
(ii) in permanent teeth .....	9}	
(e) Extractions : (i) temporary .....	48}	1023
(ii) permanent .....	975}	
(f) Dentures supplied to 52 women :—		
Full sets .....		31
Part sets.....		17
Remodelling .....		4

Children below school age are treated at this Clinic in very small numbers only. Expectant and nursing mothers referred from the M. & C. W. department usually require extensive extractions on account of pyorrhoea, dental sepsis and numerous decayed teeth; suitable artificial dentures being subsequently provided."

#### **Public Health (Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations, 1926.**

Provision is made for the investigation and treatment of cases of puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia under the above Regulations. The arrangements provide for bacteriological examination of pathological material and other facilities.

Mr. G. I. Straehan, F.R.C.S. (Eng.), Gynaecologist, Cardiff Royal Infirmary, acts as consultant under these arrangements. His services, however, were not called upon during the year.

Hospital accommodation, both at the Cardiff Royal Infirmary and Llwynypia Hospital, is available for cases recommended by the Medical Officer of Health. Free treatment is provided in necessitous cases. No patients were admitted for in-patient treatment under these Regulations during the period under review.

The Council has approved of the free issue of suitable serum or antitoxin to medical practitioners desiring the same for the treatment of puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia. A small stock is kept at the office of the Medical Officer of Health.

## CONSULTING SERVICE IN MATERNITY CASES.

The Pontypridd Council have a scheme providing for the services of a consultant for assisting local doctors in difficulties or complications arising during pregnancy or confinement.

Mr. Strachan, F.R.C.S. (Eng.), is the obstetrician appointed under the same conditions as at present apply in cases of puerperal fever and pyrexia.

This surgeon's services were not required in this connection in 1938.

Cases of pregnancy likely to prove complicated or difficult are also seen by arrangement at the out-patient department of the Llwynypia Hospital. Reports are subsequently submitted to the medical staff conducting the Council's Ante-natal Clinics. A large number of women were examined in this manner by the Hospital staff during 1938. The Council provide transport, and one of the Health Visitors accompanies the cases whenever required.

## PROVISION OF MIDWIVES.

The Glamorgan County Council administer a midwifery service for this town under the provisions of the Midwives' Act, 1936.

## ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.

The Council possess a very complete and efficient orthopaedic scheme which has been in existence for a number of years past. This service is comprehensive and provides for the orthopaedic treatment of children under five years, not attending school, through the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee: and for school children up to the age of 16 years through the Education Committee. Details of the work done by the latter Committee are given in the Annual Report of the School Medical Officer. The scheme provides for hospital treatment (both in-patient and out-patient treatment) at the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Cardiff, and for remedial exercises, massage and after-care by the orthopaedic nurse, for which purpose the Council have a suitably equipped clinic. The expenditure under this head during the financial year 1938-39 amounted to £186, as compared with £146 for the previous corresponding period.

The orthopaedic surgeon who is a member of the hon. staff of the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Cardiff, holds a clinic at Pontypridd periodically and sees all new patients and



any old cases that require further examination. Here the necessary treatment for each case is prescribed and arrangements made accordingly. The orthopaedic surgeon held clinic sessions during 1938 in Pontypridd, in May and November.

The following data give an indication of the orthopaedic work carried out during the year by the Maternity and Child Welfare Department :—

Number of new cases under the maternity and child welfare scheme examined by the orthopaedic surgeon at the Pontypridd clinic in 1938 .....	24
Number of old cases re-examined .....	8

The above 24 new cases were diagnosed and treatment advised as follows :—

Bow-legs (slight)—observation .....	3
Knock-knee—appliances .....	1
Knock-knee—observation .....	1
Flat feet—corrected boots .....	7
Flat feet—observation .....	10
Contracture of fingers—splinting .....	1
Contracture of toes—splinting .....	1
	—
	24
	—

Three children attended the Out-patient Clinic of the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Cardiff, as emergency cases and the diagnosis with treatment recommended was as follows :—

Shortening, left tendon Achilles—stretching in plaster, followed by corrected boots .....	1
Brodies' abscess—admitted to hospital—treated on Thomas' frame .....	1
Torticollis (left)—massage and collar .....	1

Particulars of other orthopaedic work are given below :—

Appliances supplied .....	0
Appliances repaired .....	11
Inspections by Medical Officer at Clinics .....	12
Admitted to Hospital .....	2
Discharged from Hospital .....	1
Attended out-patients' Department of the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Cardiff .....	21
Boots repaired locally .....	87
Boots corrected at Prince of Wales' Hospital .....	7
Visits paid treating cases at home .....	26

Visits paid inspecting cases after discharge from Hospital .....	150
Visits paid by children for treatment at Clinic (exercises, etc.) .....	113
Suspected new cases seen at home.....	14
Attendances at Clinic (enquiries, etc.) .....	114
Other visits .....	18

## ARTIFICIAL LIGHT CLINIC.

Sessions of the above clinic are held three times weekly under the supervision of the medical staff.

Two mercury vapour lamps provide the usual source of ultra-violet radiation, although carbon and tungsten arcs are available.

A Wood's filter is used for observing fluorescence for diagnostic purposes, more especially in ringworm of the scalp.

This clinic is available for the treatment of babies and young children as well as mothers referred from the maternity and child welfare centres.

The following is a condensed report on those cases treated during the year, coming under the purview of maternity and child welfare. The main work of this clinic, however, is concerned with school children, and is dealt with fully in the Annual Report of the School Medical Officer.

No. of children .....	37
No. of attendances for treatment .....	1070
No. of expectant and nursing mothers .....	2
No. of attendances for treatment .....	16

### Diseases or ailments treated :—

#### (1) Children :

Retarded development.....	2
Bronehial Catarrh.....	1
Delayed dentition.....	1
Nervous debility .....	3
Sub-normal nutrition .....	15
Deformity of spine .....	1
Anaemia .....	6
Debility .....	5

Rickets .....	3
Marasmus .....	1
Septic dermatitis .....	1
Cerebral diplegia .....	1
Enuresis .....	1

(2) Mothers :

Rheumatism .....	1
Debility .....	1

Of the above children, 26 showed improvement in their general condition and gained, on an average, 2.4 lbs. in weight ; 6 cases received only a short period of treatment during 1938, insufficient to produce results ; in four instances the weights of the children were not recorded. In one case only a child lost weight.

The two mothers referred to did not complete the full course of treatment and no definite results were obtained.

## X-RAY TREATMENT OF RINGWORM.

Ringworm of the scalp occurring in school children is treated by X-ray epilation at the clinic of the Cardiff Corporation Health Department ; and where infected contacts or cases below school age are met with, the Maternity and Child Welfare Department accept responsibility for similar treatment.

This service is provided free in those cases recommended by the medical officer.

No cases were discovered in 1938. Those children suspected of this disease all proved negative on examination under filtered ultra-violet light.

## COUNCIL'S SCALES OF INCOME FOR DETERMINING NECESSITY.

The undermentioned two scales of income for determining necessity are adopted by the Council and approved by the Ministry of Health.

Scale No. 1 is applied by the Health Department in connection with applications received for :—

(a) Supply of milk to mothers and children.

(b) Provision of free spectacles.

## SCALE No. 1.

No. in family (including parents).	Weekly income per head of family (rent deducted).
1 .....	15/-
2 .....	12/-
3 .....	9/6
4 .....	8/-
5 .....	7/6
6 and over.....	6/6

Scale No. 2 is applied in connection with applications received for :—

- (a) Dentures for nursing and expectant mothers.
- (b) Orthopaedic treatment.
- (c) Hospital provision for maternity cases.
- (d) Hospital treatment of minor gynaecological cases.

## SCALE No. 2.

No. in family (including parents).	Total family income (less rent) for four weeks.
	£ s. d.
2 .....	6 10 0
3 .....	7 4 0
4 .....	9 4 0
5 .....	11 0 0
6 .....	12 12 0
7 .....	14 0 0
8 .....	15 0 0
9 .....	16 4 0
10 .....	17 0 0
11 .....	17 12 0
12 .....	18 0 0

If the family income (plus the amount received in maternity benefit in the case of hospital treatment for maternity cases) is below the scale, the Council bear the whole cost; if the income is above the scale, patients are required to contribute the sum which is in excess of the standard income for the four weeks.

In the case of hospital treatment for puerperal pyrexia under the Council's scheme, the financial circumstances of applicants are individually considered by the Council in determining the contribution payable; this being in accordance with the recommendation of the Ministry of Health.

## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Senior Sanitary Inspector Jones retired in July and the Council decided in view of the continued decrease in population not to appoint another sanitary inspector in his place.

The clerical staff was reorganised and enlarged to cope with the numerous additional duties imposed during recent years. Two additional clerks were appointed.

A complete list of the public health personnel is given on pages 4 and 5 of this Report.

## NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) **General.** The Pontypridd and Treforest Division of the British Red Cross Society now employ four qualified nurses for the treatment of medical and surgical cases in the home.

The Pontypridd Council, through its Transport Department, provide each of the above nurses with a free pass available on all routes of the Local Authority's omnibus services within the area.

This Society has also provided a Medical Comforts Depot at the Council's Central Clinic premises, where a good stock of sickroom appliances is kept for hire at a nominal charge to persons needing such assistance. Officers of the Society attend at the Depot daily to issue requirements.

This scheme is proving a boon to the sick, and is administered in co-operation with the Health Department which has provided suitable waiting-room and storage accommodation without charge.

A subsidiary Depot is also provided in Treforest.

At the Albion Colliery one District Nurse is engaged by the Workmen's Federation, for general nursing.

(b) **Infectious Diseases.** When not otherwise engaged, the above Red Cross nurses may assist in the nursing of selected infectious cases in the home.

(c) **Home Helps for Maternity Cases.** The M. & C. W. Committee have not, up to the present, considered it essential to provide Home Helps (non-professional) for employment in maternity cases. There does not appear to be any demand for this type of assistance in this locality.

## MIDWIVES.

On the 1st January, 1938, the number of private midwives in the area was six, all of whom were trained. In accordance with Part II. of the Midwives' Act, 1936, the Glamorgan County Council, as the Supervising Authority for this district, have appointed seven permanent and two permanent relief midwives for the Pontypridd area and these are resident in the respective wards of the town as follows :—

Graig .....	1	Hopkinstown .....	1
Graigwen .....	1	Treforest & Rhydy-	
Cilfynydd .....	1	felin .....	2
Coedpenmaen.....	1		

The two relief midwives are delegated to the Coedpenmaen and Treforest districts.

## MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

Pontypridd is not a local supervising authority under Acts relating to the registration of maternity and other nursing homes. This work is carried out for the Pontypridd area by the Glamorgan County Council.

## MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Maternal deaths occurring within the area are investigated by the Medical Officer in consultation with the medical practitioner concerned with the case.

In the course of the year four deaths of persons resident within the area were registered attributable to causes associated with pregnancy. The maternal mortality rate for Pontypridd in 1938 was accordingly 7.2 per thousand live births ; with the inclusion of still births, the figure is reduced to 6.74. These death rates are in excess of those for England and Wales as a whole, which are 3.08 and 2.97 respectively.



## LABORATORY WORK AND FACILITIES.

Arrangements exist with the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory for examination of pathological specimens and reports thereon. A table is given below showing the results of examination of suspected specimens sent to the laboratory during the year 1938.

TABLE III.

Nature of Specimen.	Results.		
	Num- ber.	Posi- tive.	Nega- tive.
Swabs for diphtheria bacilli :—			
Throat .....	687	134	553
Nasal .....	42	18	24
Swabs for diphtheria bacilli, Viru- lence test :—			
Throat .....	0	0	0
Nasal .....	2	2	0
Swabs for Vincent's angina.....	1	1	0
Swabs for haemolytic streptococci	1	0	1
Sputum for tubercle bacilli.....	30	5	25
Pleural fluid for tubercle bacilli ..	1	1	0
Cerebro-spinal fluid for tubercle bacilli .....	1	1	0
Blood for agglutination test (B. typhosus) .....	1	1	0
Blood for Wassermann reaction..	3	0	3
Milk for bacteriological estimation and tests :—			
“Tuberculin Tested” ....	42	0	0
“Pasteurised” .....	23	0	0
Ungraded .....	26	0	0
Milk for tubercle bacilli .....	16	0	16
Ice-cream for bacteriological esti- mation and tests .....	8	0	0
Water for bacteriological and/or chemical examination ....	11	0	0
Total .....	895		

Outfits for the collection of specimens for transmission through the post are kept at the office of the Public Health Department for the use of the medical practitioners of the town.

# LIST OF ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYE-LAWS AND LOCAL REGULATIONS RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

ACTS.	Date of Adoption.
The Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889 .....	7th November, 1889.
The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890 (Parts II., III., IV. & V.) .....	6th November, 1890.
The Private Street Works Act, 1892	16th December, 1892.
The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907 (Parts II., III., IV., V., VI. & X.).....	29th April, 1909.
The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890 .....	29th April, 1909.
The Bath and Wash-houses Act, 1846-99 .....	1st June, 1920.
The Public Health Act, 1925 (Parts II., III., IV. & V.) .....	15th December, 1925.

## BYE-LAWS.

Slaughterhouses.....	17th February, 1887.
Cleansing of Footways and Pavements, and the Cleansing of Earth Closets, Privies and Cess-pools and Nuisances .....	17th February, 1887.
Houses let in Lodgings and Common Lodging Houses .....	17th February, 1887.
Nuisances in connection with the removal of Offensive or Noxious Matters .....	20th September, 1893.
The Public Slaughterhouse .....	5th March, 1896.
Removal of, and collection of House Refuse .....	23rd July, 1896.
Nuisances .....	23rd July, 1896.
Employment of Children Act, 1903 .	6th July, 1907.



## LIST OF ADOPTIVE ACTS, ETC. (Continued).

BYE-LAWS.	Date of Adoption.
Offensive Trades .....	12th September, 1911.
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops ..	30th July, 1912.
Means of Escape in Case of Fire in Certain Factories and Work- shops .....	3rd September, 1912.
Conduct of Persons using Sanitary Conveniencies .....	3rd December, 1912.
Tents, Sheds, Vans, etc.....	6th December, 1914.
New Streets and Buildings .....	19th November, 1929.
Employment of Children .....	1st November, 1934.

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## Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

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### WATER SUPPLY.

Pontypridd in general is supplied with a constant piped service from the mains of the Pontypridd and Rhondda Joint Water Board. This water is usually of good bacterial quality, soft in character and neutral or faintly alkaline.

The supply is amply sufficient to meet the needs of the community even in the driest seasons; the storage capacity of the reservoirs under the control of the Board is capable of withstanding a long period of drought.

The Public Health Department samples the water regularly and maintains close co-operation with the Engineer and Manager of the Board.

The M. O. H. has been appointed Medical Officer to the Board for the periodical examination of all employees engaged on the Authority's reservoirs, filtration plant and water mains.

Typical bacteriological and chemical reports are reproduced herewith.

## THE CARDIFF AND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY.

### Report on Chemical Analysis of Sample of Water.

Date received ..... May 13th, 1938.  
 Delivered by ..... Sanitary Inspector Davies.  
 Sample Labelled .... Public Water Supply, Pontypridd.  
 Date of Analysis ..... May 14th, 17th, 1938.  
 Appearance in two-foot tube ..... Pale green, clear.

Reaction .....	}	Alkaline ; pH 7.4
Total Hardness .....		6.5
a. Temporary .....		—
b. Permanent .....		—
Chlorine .....	} PARTS PER HUNDRED THOUSAND.	1.0
Nitrogen as Nitrates ..		Nil.
Oxygen absorbed from Per- manganate .....		—
Saline (or "Free") Am- monia .....		.0008
Organic (or "Albuminoid") Ammonia .....		.0012
Poisonous Metals .....		Nil.
Nitrites .....		Nil.
Phosphates .....		—
Sulphates .....		—
Microscopic examination of the sediment .....		Small amount. Chiefly oxide of iron. Animate forms rare.
Volume of sediment ....	}	.2

#### REMARKS :—

"A fairly soft water. Chemical analysis shows no evidence of any organic contamination."

### Report on Bacteriological Examination of Sample of Water.

District ..... Pontypridd.  
 Date received ..... May 13th, 1938.  
 Description of sample ..... Tap, Public Supply.  
 Bacteria developing per m.l.  
     at 37°C ..... 4  
 B. Coli present in ..... 50 .ml.  
 B. Coli absent from .... 10 m.l. or smaller amounts.

#### REMARKS :—"Fairly Satisfactory."

(Signed) J. H. SUGDEN,  
Chemist and Bacteriologist.

## RAINFALL.

The following statistics of the local rainfall and the data relating to the water supply of Pontypridd for the year 1938 have been kindly provided by the Engineer and Manager of the Joint Water Board.

Number of houses supplied within the Pontypridd area on 31st December, 1938 ..... 8.940

## RAINFALL REGISTERED AT LANWOOD RESERVOIR PONTYPRIDD, DURING 1938.

Month.	Inches.
January .....	9.72
February .....	3.02
March .....	0.83
April .....	0.29
May .....	5.68
June .....	3.67
July .....	5.85
August .....	5.54
September .....	2.97
October .....	11.78
November .....	10.92
December .....	6.16
Total .....	66.43

The average rainfall recorded at the above station for the last ten years is 58.80 inches.

The numbers of samples of water from public supply, springs, etc., taken by the Health Department during 1938, for bacteriological and chemical analysis were as follows :—

**TABLE IV.**

	Number of Samples.	Satis- factory.	Unsatis- factory.
Bacteriological .....	6	5	1
Chemical .....	5	5	—
Totals .....	11	10	1

## RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The Pontypridd Urban District Council Act, 1920, Part VI., confers powers upon the Council to prevent the deposition of refuse or other solid matter into the permanent rivers and streams within the district. Offenders are liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds.

Further, special powers to prevent the deposition of solid matter on the banks of such streams are also possessed by the Council. A penalty not exceeding ten pounds may be imposed for every such offence.

No action has been taken under this Part of the Act during 1938.

Few complaints of bad odours or other nuisance arising from the rivers Rhondda or Taff were lodged during the year, which reflects an improvement in the purity of the water of these two rivers from decreased pollution by sewage.

TABLE IVa.

## ANALYSIS OF RIVER WATER.

(Results are stated in parts per 100,000).

Date Collected.	Description.	Suspended Matter.	Dissolved Oxygen Present.	Organic Ammonia.	Putrescibility.	Dissolved Oxygen Consumed.
17/10/38	River Taff, Treforest.	small am't.	0.98	0.011	nil.	0.14

## REMARKS :—

“The chemical and physical characters are satisfactory.”

A sewage farm, upon which the sewage from an adjoining Local Authority is treated, extends into the northern part of our area. The effluent is discharged into the river Taff at Glyneoch on the side of the river opposite to Cilfynydd. The County Council regularly sample and report

upon the crude sewage and sewage effluent. As the purity and sanitary condition of the river water is a matter of concern to the inhabitants of Pontypridd, for information, typical chemical reports are reproduced below :—

**Crude Sewage.** Date collected, 22/11/38.

Result : Organic suspended matter—large amount.

**Effluent.** Date collected, 22/11/38.

Result : Organic suspended matter—trace.

Organic ammonia—0.02.

Putrescibility—Nil.

Dissolved oxygen consumed—0.29.

Nitrogen as nitrates—1.44.

Remarks : “Good.”

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

A complete water-carriage system of sewerage, seventeen miles in length, controlled by the Pontypridd and Rhondda Joint Sewerage Board, extends from the Rhondda Urban Area to the sea. All authorised inhabited houses in the Pontypridd urban locality are connected with this main sewer, with the exception of approximately 110 dwellings, which lie outside the statutory distance.

In addition to the above a number of vans and temporary dwellings in the area are of necessity employing the conservancy system of sewage disposal.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are approximately 106 houses in the district without separate closet accommodation, one water closet serving the needs of two houses. A small proportion of water closets in Pontypridd were not fitted with proper flushing tanks when the plans for the premises were originally approved and these are presumably cleansed by means of waste water. Each year this number is being reduced through the efforts of the Sanitary Department as opportunity arises.

## SCAVENGING.

The collection of house and trade refuse is under the administration of the Surveyor's Department.

Every part of the district is visited by the Council's dust carts and lorries three times weekly for the purpose of collections, which represents a very creditable service and a public health asset of prime importance.

All refuse is conveyed to the Council's incinerator at Treforest and destroyed by burning. No other method of disposal is employed in the locality. Offal from the Public Abattoir, and all condemned meat and other foodstuffs are incinerated in this manner.

The calorific value of the refuse is utilised by the Electricity Department for generating current ; and the residual clinker is used for filling and levelling land, etc.

Two outbreaks of foot and mouth disease in Glamorgan-shire which occurred in March and November and which included Pontypridd within the affected area, necessitated the incineration of all manure and slaughterhouse refuse both from the public abattoir and private slaughterhouses in this town. This service was gratuitously carried out by the Council during the whole of the periods in which these Orders were in force.

The following are particulars of refuse and waste material destroyed during 1938 :—

	From Pontypridd Area.	From Llantwit Area.
	Tons.	Tons.
Refuse . . . . .	14,354	1,373
Offal . . . . .	115	—
Total . . . . .	14,469	1,373

Average amount destroyed per working day from both of the above areas, 51 tons.

Some progress has been made towards the more general provision by householders of suitable domestic dust-bins of approved pattern as required by the Council's bye-laws.

The dumping of refuse of various kinds in the rivers and waterways and on their banks is still a prevalent nuisance which is constantly engaging the attention of the Sanitary Inspectors. It is always difficult to obtain direct evidence of this class of offence, although the vigilance of the sanitary staff tends to minimise its occurrence.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following tables record the work of the Sanitary Inspectors for the year :—

TABLE V.

Summary of Inspections and Revisits in the course of Routine Work and On Complaint during the year ended 31st December, 1938 :—

	Number.	Nuisances Found.
On Complaint .....	230	227
Dwelling Houses (P.H. or Housing Acts)	4031	5162
Ditto.                  Ditto.                  Revisits	—	—
Revisits re Notice served (P.H. Acts) ..	2043	—
Infectious Diseases .....	490	37
Revisits for disinfection .....	5	—
Revisits—removal of cases .....	257	—
Revisits—observation of contacts ....	79	—
Public Abattoir .....	857	—
Private Slaughterhouses .....	1046	—
Markets .....	326	5
Meat and Food Shops .....	140	—
Bakehouses .....	105	11
Factories .....	30	1
Workshops .....	82	3
Workplaces .....	16	2
Outworkers .....	10	—
Common Lodging Houses .....	26	1
Houses let in Lodgings .....	30	5
Fried-fish shops .....	131	11
Offensive trades .....	64	1
Ice-cream shops .....	40	1
Cinemas and Theatres .....	32	8
Schools .....	17	4
Cowsheds .....	74	31
Dairies and Milkshops .....	167	31
Drains tested .....	99	77
Stables .....	9	7
Pigstyes .....	8	2
Visits re refuse accommodation .....	140	79
Rats and Mice Destruction Act .....	9	7
Miscellaneous inspections .....	107	29
Totals .....	10700	5742



TABLE VI.

Summary of all Nuisances discovered in the course of Routine Inspections and Inspections made on complaint during the year ended 31st December, 1938,

	No. of Nuisances.	Preliminary notices served.	Statutory or Abatement notices served.	Nuisances abated during year.
Insufficient drainage .....	—	—	—	—
Defective and choked drains .....	494	283	60	603
Defective inspection chambers .....	31	20	1	32
Defective kitchen sinks & waste pipes..	124	94	36	91
Defective soilpipes and ventilation shafts .....	129	116	23	86
Defective and choked W.C.'s .....	487	351	171	488
Insufficient W.C. accommodation ..	50	49	19	29
Defective flush tanks and water fittings in W.C.'s .....	728	579	234	450
Yard surfaces defective .....	355	232	146	225
Defective roofs and chimney stacks..	686	409	209	562
Defective rainwater shutes and down-pipes .....	731	405	173	511
Defective external walls and internal plastering .....	204	135	48	182
Defective and decayed woodwork in floors, skirting boards, stair- cases and handrails .....	329	291	129	184
Defective and decayed woodwork in doors and door frames .....	222	151	82	128
Windows: defective woodwork, not made to open, etc. ....	310	215	70	206
Fireplaces: defective brickwork, broken firegrates and ovens ..	263	179	122	164
Smoke nuisances, including those caused by defective flues....	5	4	10	2
Defective tile and stone floors .....	333	280	98	240
Overcrowding .....	—	—	—	—
Insufficient lighting and ventilation..	15	14	7	8
Dirty and verminous premises .....	44	35	1	33
Animals improperly kept .....	8	8	—	6
Stables: Nuisances arising therefrom	—	—	—	—
Insufficient refuse accommodation ..	75	42	—	78
Accumulations of offensive matter....	15	11	1	15
Walls abutting earth causing damp- ness .....	35	34	1	2
Insufficient subsoil drainage .....	2	2	—	1
Defective and insufficient domestic water supply .....	13	13	1	—
Rats and mice infestation.....	5	4	—	3
Breach of bye-laws .....	5	5	—	5
Breach of Factory and Workshops' Regulations .....	10	10	1	6
Miscellaneous Nuisances .....	34	1	—	10
Totals .....	5742	3972	1643	4350



## PROSECUTIONS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS, ETC.

Seventeen prosecutions under the Public Health Acts were taken out by the Sanitary Inspectors during 1938. In each instance the owner carried out the works stipulated and the summonses were withdrawn on payment of costs.

## CANAL BOAT ACTS, 1877 and 1881.

Inspector D. G. Davies is the appointed inspector of canal boats under this Authority. Six canal boats operate within the area. The total number of inspections of these vessels amounted to 112 for the year 1938. Minor infringements of the regulations were met with in the case of each of the boats on one or another of the periodical inspections, but it was not necessary to resort to legal measures for their remedy. The occupants are all males ; no women or children sleep on the canal boats.

Infringement in respect of.	No. of cases met with.	No. of cases remedied.
Registration .....	Nil.	Nil.
Absence of Certificate.....	Nil.	Nil.
Marking .....	Nil.	Nil.
Cleanliness .....	1	1
Painting .....	8	8
Dilapidations .....	8	8
No proper water vessel.....	3	3
Ventilation .....	Nil.	Nil.
	—	—
	20	20
	—	—

# FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Inspection of and Nuisances abated in Factories during 1938.

TABLE VII.

TRADES.	No of Inspections.	Notices Served.	Nuisances Abated.					Totals.
			Water Closets cleansed and repaired.	Defective Drains repaired.	Lime-washing and Cleansing.	Accumulation of filth, etc., removed.	Structural defects remedied.	
Bakeries .....	80	12	2	—	9	—	1	12
Dressmakers .....	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Milliners .....	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tailors.....	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shoemaking & repairing.	26	1	—	—	1	—	—	1
Sugar boiling.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Motor Repairing Works.	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fruit Stores .....	9	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Cabinet Works .....	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carpenters and Joiners..	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rag Assorting .....	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Harness Making .....	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smiths.....	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Printers .....	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wheelwrights.....	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Knaekers .....	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hay and Corn Mills ....	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hide and Skin Mart....	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gutscrapers .....	10	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Totals .....	255	14	2	1	10	1	1	15

No. of Notices of Occupation of New Factories received from H.M. Inspector of Factories ..... 15

No. of Notices received from H.M. Inspector of Factories re defaults ..... Nil

TABLE VIII.

Administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1931, and the Factories Act, 1937 (which superseded the Act of 1901 on 1st July, 1938).

## (1)—INSPECTIONS.

Premises. (1).	Number of :		
	Inspections. (2).	Written Notices. (3).	Occupiers Prosecuted. (4).
Factories with Mechanical Power	42	4	—
Factories without Mechanical Power .....	132	4	—
Other premises under the Act (including works of Building and Engineering Construction but not including outworkers' premises) .....	—	—	—
Total .....	174	8	—

## (2)—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1).	Number of Defects.		Referred to H.M. Inspector. (1).	Number of defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted (5).
	Found. (2).	Remedied. (3).		
Want of Cleanliness (S.1).....	4	4	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) .....	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6).....	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):—				
Insufficient .....	1	—	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective ....	11	11	—	—
Not Separate for Sexes ....	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Work- shops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937) .....	—	—	—	—
Total .....	16	15	—	—

## SHOPS AND OFFICES. Shops Act, 1934 ; Public Health Act, 1936.

In accordance with the enlarged powers and duties outlined in the Ministry's Circular 1600, the District Sanitary Inspectors now visit offices and similar premises to deal with those special nuisances and conditions likely to be prejudicial to the health of the employees. No such offences, however, were reported during the year under review.

The Pontypridd Council employ one Inspector to carry out duties under the above Act, and this officer maintains close co-operation with the Health Department. Sanitary nuisances discovered in this manner are reported to the Medical Officer of Health and dealt with without delay.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Very few complaints of smoke nuisance were brought to the notice of the Department during the year and these were generally remedied through informal action by the sanitary staff, to the extent of the powers given under the several Public Health Acts.

## BYELAWS RELATING TO HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS, TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, ETC., AND OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Adequate byelaws in regard to each of the above are in force in this area. A complete list of these and other byelaws, together with the dates of their adoption by the Council are set out in the "List of Adoptive Acts, Byelaws, and Local Regulations Relating to Public Health in force in the District," reproduced in an earlier section of this report.

## OTHER SANITARY CONDITIONS REQUIRING NOTICE.

**Crematorium.** The Pontypridd Crematorium is an important contribution towards the sanitary disposal of the dead.

Mr. James E. Spickett, Solicitor, Clerk and Registrar of the Pontypridd Burial Board and Cremation Authority, reports that the steady increase in the number of cremations at the Crematorium still continues and this mode of disposal of the dead is gaining in favour in the town and district. The number of cremations per thousand of population for the district is greater than that for any town outside the district

served by the Crematorium. The prejudice against cremation, locally, seems to be fast disappearing. The number of cremations for the year ended 31st December, 1938, was 204 as against 194 for the year 1937.

### CAMPING SITES.

No licences have been issued in respect of camping sites by the Local Authority; nor are there any sites within the area which are used for these purposes.

### VENTILATION OF CINEMAS AND PUBLIC VEHICLES.

All cinemas are reported upon from the public health standpoint at the annual Licensing meeting of the Council; a small number of complaints of impure air and insufficient ventilation in some of the local halls were dealt with as they arose by informal letters to the management.

No complaints were received of insufficient ventilation of public vehicles.

### RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

The Sanitary Inspectors have visited premises and given appropriate advice where rat or mice infestation was reported. Help of this kind has been generally successful, and in some cases squill rat poison has been supplied free of charge.

### COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are now only two common lodging houses in the area. These premises were frequently inspected during the year with a view to seeing that they were kept in a cleanly state, and that the periodical lime-washing and other requirements of the byelaws were carried out. A detailed report on these premises was made to the Council at their annual Licensing meeting in December, and a certificate of registration was granted in both instances.

### VERMINOUS PREMISES: ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

The regular inspection by the district sanitary staff of the houses comprising the Council's housing estate has done much to improve the former verminous condition of a number of these premises, and complaints of this nature are less

frequent than in former years ; four cases only were dealt with in 1938 as compared with 37 in the previous twelve months.

Where necessary, helpful advice is given to householders by the district sanitary inspector, and fumigants are provided by the Department free of charge in suitable cases. Otherwise it is made clear to the tenants that it is their duty to keep their houses in a cleanly state and themselves to rid them of bugs and other vermin.

(1). No. of houses found to be infested with bed bugs :

(i) Council houses.....	4
(ii) Other houses .....	40

No. of houses disinfested :—

(i) Council houses.....	4
(ii) Other houses .....	40

(2). The methods chiefly employed locally for ridding infested houses of bed bugs are spraying with a volatile liquid insecticide, fumigation with sulphur dioxide, or both. Good results are the rule. Hydrogen cyanide is not used.

(3). A routine inspection for vermin is made by the Sanitary Inspectors of the furniture and bedding of all tenants transferred to Council houses, in connection with Slum Clearance. Where evidence of infestation by vermin is detected the above methods are utilised for their eradication.

(4). Where the work of disinfestation is undertaken by the Local Authority, Council workmen are employed and are, for this purpose, under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

## OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The following offensive trades are established in the district :—

Rag storage and sorting .....	2
Fellmonger .....	1
Gutscrapping .....	1
Fried-fish shops .....	26
Knackers' yard .....	1
Horse butchery .....	1

The above premises and trades are conducted in accordance with the Council's byelaws framed for the regulation of offensive trades.



## RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises within the Pontypridd area in which rag flock is manufactured. This material is otherwise used or sold in very small quantities only.

## RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST RESTRICTION ACTS, 1920 and 1923.

No applications were received by the Local Authority in connection with the above Acts during 1938.

## SCHOOLS.

The offices of the School Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health are combined in the same person, and accordingly the closest possible co-operation exists between these two branches of the public health services. The general sanitary condition, water supply, and other health-promoting amenities of the Public Elementary Schools within the area continue to be maintained at a high standard.

Fuller particulars are contained in the Annual Report of the School Medical Officer, which is published separately from, and at an earlier date, than this report.

## HEALTH EDUCATION.

This important subject is one of the aspects of public health which is constantly borne in mind by members of the staff who take every opportunity to promote a better knowledge of hygiene, dietetics and allied matters amongst all classes of the public with whom they come into contact. In this propaganda they are assisted by various publications of the Health and Cleanliness Council as well as pamphlets on infectious diseases and individual health subjects provided free by the Wesleyan and General Assurance Society.

## SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

Pontypridd possesses a municipal open-air swimming bath and a paddling pool situated in Ynysangharad Park. The adult bath has a capacity of 460,000 gallons, and the juvenile pool 180,000 gallons.

A large-capacity filtration and purification plant treats the water of both baths by chemical precipitation, filtration, aeration and finally chlorination.

Water is drawn from the two baths at the total rate of 80,000 gallons per hour, and the complete contents of each bath is circulated once every eight hours.

This modern apparatus provides a high standard of performance and the clarity and purity of the swimming bath water is above criticism.

Bacteriological tests of samples of water from the children's paddling pool and the swimming bath in Ynysangharad Park, taken in August, were reported to be satisfactory.

Tests for chlorine in the water of the swimming bath, in September, showed no residual free chlorine and the chemical and physical characters of the water were stated to be satisfactory.

There are no privately owned swimming baths or pools in this area open to the public or otherwise.

## HOUSING STATISTICS.

### 1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR 1938 :—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .....	4238
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	6278
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 .....	Nil.
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	Nil.
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ....	Nil.
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.....	474

### 2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers....	345
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### 3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—

#### A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | Nil. |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices : |      |
| (a) By owners .....   | Nil. |
| (b) By local authority in default of owners   | Nil. |

#### B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ..... | 341  |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—              |      |
| (a) By owners .....  | 353  |
| (b) By local authority in default of owners  | Nil. |

#### C. Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made..... | 3 |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .....   | 3 |

#### D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.....   | 8    |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ..... | Nil. |

#### 4. HOUSING ACT, 1936.—PART IV. OVER-CROWDING :—

(a) (i)	No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .....	422
(ii)	No. of families dwelling therein .....	435
(iii)	No. of persons dwelling therein .....	2243
(b)	No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .....	Nil.
(c) (i)	No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .....	Nil.
(ii)	No. of persons concerned in such cases....	Nil.
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding .....	Nil.

The above Section 4 represents the position in Pontypridd at the time of the survey which was made in 1936. The Department has no evidence that there is any noteworthy change in the position of overcrowding in the town at the end of the year 1938.

#### HOUSING ACT, 1936.

##### A.—SLUM CLEARANCE.

Twenty-eight dwellings, on the representation of the Health Department, were accepted in the first instance by the Council as unfit for human habitation. This figure represents the year's quota of slum clearance under the provisions of the above Act within the Pontypridd area.

The majority of the above houses formed five groups which were designated Clearance Areas, as follows :—

Five houses : clearance Area No. 3.

Three Houses : Clearance Area No. 4.

Three houses : Clearance Area No. 5.

Four houses : Clearance Area No. 6.

Nine Houses : Clearance Area No. 7.

The remainder comprised a small number of underground dwellings in the Upper Boat district.

Towards the end of 1937 the Council completed a group of 52 houses at Rhydychfelin which were erected to rehouse tenants displaced from dwellings which were demolished or closed in pursuance of the Act.

Twenty-six of these new dwellings were already occupied by December 31st, 1937, and the remaining twenty-six were utilised for rehousing a similar number of families in January and February, 1938.

No new houses were built by the Pontypridd Council during the year under review although a scheme for the construction of seventy-six houses, comprising eight types of dwellings, was well advanced. Numerous difficulties in securing the necessary loan sanction and ultimate loan, unfortunately caused much delay, and the erection of this group, which will form a very important contribution towards the housing needs of this town, has had to be deferred until the current year.

## B.—OVERCROWDING.

The position in this town regarding overcrowding is unchanged. The Council's housing activities have been confined almost entirely to dealing with slum clearance. Overcrowding may possibly be considered to have been somewhat relieved by migration but from applications received almost daily by the Rentals Department for Council houses, and from enquiries made from time to time by the Sanitary Staff, overcrowding in Pontypridd is obviously still an acute problem.

## COUNCIL HOUSES.

Particulars of the dwelling-houses owned by the Pontypridd Local Authority at the end of 1938 are set out below :

Duffryn Housing Estate .....	496
Housing Acts, 1930-1936 .....	92
Ynys Terrace .....	28
Gwernygerwn .....	6
Taken over by the Council :	
Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts,	
1899-1923 and Housing Act, 1923	38
Total .....	<hr/> 660 <hr/>

## FLOODING OF HOUSES.

The Trehafod district of Pontypridd is subject to recurrent flooding, mainly from the river Rhondda, and the most serious flood since 1929 took place early in October, after a period of torrential rain. A retaining wall, previously built to protect the low-lying premises of River Street and the neighbourhood, collapsed under pressure and a huge volume of water entered many houses with little or no warning, causing the death from drowning of a man who was trapped in a rear ground floor room in his home at the lower end of River Street. Scores of people were temporarily rendered homeless, and many families took shelter in a near-by Chapel, where everything possible was done, both by public and private effort, to look after their welfare. The Sanitary Department supplied a quantity of disinfectants for use in cleansing the homes as the water subsided, and the Council convened a conference of representative persons to consider remedial measures to prevent a repetition of such a disaster. These matters are still under consideration.

## OTHER HOUSING MATTERS.

The Council's Treasurer and Valuation Officer reports that twelve new dwelling houses in the locality were completed in 1938 by private enterprise, in accordance with plans approved by the Housing and Plans Committee; in addition to other non-residential premises and minor structures.

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## Inspection and Supervision of Food.

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### THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

#### (a) TUBERCULIN TESTED.

Three licences to bottle and retail this grade of milk were approved by the Council in 1938.

The dairy premises concerned are suitably equipped for the purpose and subject to frequent inspections by the Sanitary staff.

In addition two supplementary licences were issued.

#### (b) TUBERCULIN TESTED (PASTEURISED).



## (c) ACCREDITED.

No applications have been received relating to the above two grades of milk.

## (d) PASTEURISED.

Six licences were granted to retail milk under this designation; five were renewals. The milk in each instance is pasteurised under licence by modern plant in large factories at Cardiff, Whitehureh and Llanharan. Each firm or dairyman has an adequate receiving depot or dairy in this town.

No graded milk is produced in the Pontypridd district.

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF GRADED MILK.

Forty-two samples of "Tuberculin Tested" milk were submitted to the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory for examination during 1938. Two of these were reported to be unsatisfactory from the standpoint of the official methylene blue test.

The following table summarises the results as regards *B. coli* :—

## "TUBERCULIN TESTED."

No. of Samples.	1 m.l.	1 m.l.	1	1
			— 10 m.l.	— 100 m.l.
34	Absent.	—	—	—
6	—	Present.	Absent.	—
22	—	—	Present.	Absent.
42	34	6	2	42

The above results indicate an improvement in the cleanliness of this grade of milk.

Twenty-three samples of "Pasteurised" milk were similarly submitted for examination and reports indicated that one sample was non-pasteurised and four were under-pasteurised.

The following table summarises the results as regards *B. coli* :—

**"PASTEURISED."**

No. of Samples.	1 m.l.	1 m.l.	1	1
			— 10 m.l.	— 100 m.l.
17	Absent.	—	—	—
4	—	Present.	Absent.	—
2	—	—	Present.	Absent.
23	17	4	2	23

**MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.**

**(a) MILK PRODUCERS.**

The number of registered milk producers in the urban area at the end of the year 1937 was 45. During the year under review, one producer gave up business. One application for transfer of registration was received by the Council, but there were no applications in respect of new dairy premises. The net figure, therefore, for milk producers on the register at the end of the year 1938 was 44.

**(b) MILK RETAILERS.**

During 1938 three applications were received and approved by the Council for registration as retail purveyors of milk. One of these represented new dairy premises, one a transfer of registration, while the other was for registration in this district from a purveyor living outside the Pontypridd area. At the end of the year there were 117 milk vendors retailing milk within the Pontypridd district, a large number of whom reside outside the urban area.

In addition, there are 30 registered milk shops in the district, the majority of whom are vendors of sterilised milk, whose permits allow them to sell this class of milk at their premises in sealed bottles only.

**BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF UNGRADED MILK.**

Twenty-six samples of ungraded milk were taken by the Sanitary Inspectors and submitted to the County Bacteriologist for examination.

Sixteen of the above were derived from sources outside the Pontypridd area, while the other ten were from dairy farms in this locality.

The following summarises the results as regards *B. coli* :

#### UNGRADED MILK.

No. of Samples.	1 m.l.	1 m.l.	1	1	1
			— 10 m.l.	— 100 m.l.	— 1000 m.l.
9	Absent.	—	—	—	—
6	—	Present.	Absent.	—	—
6	—	—	Present.	Absent.	—
4	—	—	—	Present.	Absent.
1	—	—	—	—	Present.
26	9	6	6	4	1

In addition, 16 specimens of milk were examined for tubercle bacilli at the Cardiff Laboratory. All were negative.

The action of the local Police Officials in milk sampling, together with the results are reproduced elsewhere in this report.

#### DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

The Sanitary Inspectors paid 74 visits to cowsheds and dairy farms and 167 visits to inspect dairies and milk-shops, making a total of 241 inspections. Where necessary, notices were served for attention to lime-washing and cleansing ; in each instance these were complied with.

No structural alterations to any of the cowsheds was noted during the period under review. The cowshed at Ynys Farm, Hawthorn, was demolished as the farm premises and land were acquired for the purposes of a new housing estate.

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF OTHER MILK PRODUCTS.

Eight samples of ice-cream were obtained and submitted to the Bacteriologist at the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory for examination. Six of these were reported to be satisfactory, while two were of moderate purity. The results as regard *B. coli* content showed an improvement as compared with last year's samples.

## INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Two of the Council's three Sanitary Inspectors possess the special qualification for the examination of meat and other foods and this is regarded as an important part of their duties.

The large volume of foodstuffs dealt with in the course of each year is an index of the thorough manner in which this work is at all times carried out.

Food which, after inspection, is found to be unfit for human consumption is removed and destroyed by incineration at the Council's refuse destructor. During the year it was not necessary to secure a magistrate's order for this purpose as the whole of the unsound food was voluntarily surrendered by the tradespeople concerned.

Visits and re-visits made to the Public Abattoir by Meat Inspectors .....	857
Visits and re-visits made to the private slaughter-houses .....	1046
Visits made to other premises under Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924 .....	103
	2006

The following are particulars of the number of animals slaughtered for food in Pontypridd during the year 1938 :—

	Beasts.	Cows.	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs.	Totals.
Public Abattoir..	516	82	428	7446	3473	11945
Private						
Slaughterhouse (a)	170	—	73	1353	122	1718
do. (b)	287	—	95	2377	875	3634
do. (c)	194	—	98	1552	401	2245
do. (d)	46	—	41	507	91	685
do. (e)	20	—	39	391	53	503
Other Premises ..	—	—	—	—	103	103
	1233	82	774	13626	5168	20833

The corresponding table for 1937 is included for comparison :—

	Beasts. (including Cows).	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs.	Totals
Public Abattoir..	733	433	6504	3359	11029
Private Slaughterhouse (a)	180	97	1308	127	1712
do. (b)	323	141	2621	1002	4087
do. (c)	209	99	1386	530	2224
do. (d)	40	79	335	32	486
do. (e)	58	31	564	78	731
Other Premises ..	—	—	—	125	125
	1543	880	12718	5313	20394

Summary of Unsound Meat and Other Foods Surrendered and Destroyed during the year ended 31st December, 1938 :—

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Public Abattoir, Tubercular Meat ..	3	15	1	9
Public Abattoir, Diseased Meat....	4	1	3	20
Private Slaughterhouses, Tubercular Meat .....	2	7	3	17
Private Slaughterhouses, Diseased Meat .....	3	6	1	23
Cold Stores, Chilled Beef.....	—	—	2	14
Public Markets, Other Foods.....	1	—	1	2
	14	12	2	1

Total Weight of Meat and Other Foods Surrendered and Destroyed :—

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Tubercular Meat .....	6	3	—	26
Meat—Other Diseases .....	7	9	—	1
Damaged and Decayed Fruit and Vegetables .....	1	—	1	2
	14	12	2	1

The following table shows the percentage figures for the period September-December, 1938, for those carcasses affected with :—

(1) Diseases other than Tuberculosis.

(2) Tuberculosis.

	Cattle (exclud- ing cows)	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed ..	617	33	467	8061	2720
Number inspected	617	33	467	8061	2720
(1) All diseases other than Tuberculosis: Whole carcasses con- demned .....	—	—	1	15	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned..	242	23	—	615	93
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than Tuberculosis ....	39.22	69.69	0.21	7.82	3.49
(2) Tuberculosis only : Whole carcasses con- demned .....	—	—	—	—	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned..	26	17	—	—	162
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tu- berculosis .....	4.21	51.51	—	—	6.03

It is regretted that it was not practicable to classify the diseases of animals slaughtered locally in the above manner which is in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health, earlier than the month of September.



At the request of the Welsh Board of Health an investigation into the incidence of hydatid disease occurring in all food animals slaughtered in the urban area has been carried out by the Meat Inspectors for the period commencing July, 1938. A summary of the results to the end of the year is reproduced herewith :—

Period.	Total Animal carcasses examined.	No. affected with Hydatid Disease.	Presence of Hydatid Cysts in :	
			Lungs.	Liver.
July — December, 1938.	Cattle 660	Cattle .. 21	18	8
	Calves .. 474	Calves .... —	—	—
	Sheep & Lambs 7061	Sheep & Lambs .. 513	507	431
	Pigs .. 2710	Pigs .... 1	—	1
	Totals 10905	535	525	440

In concluding this summary of food inspection in Pontypridd for the year under review, the Sanitary staff express appreciation of the continued co-operation of the members of the local Master Butchers' Association and the Market Authorities.

## PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

The Pontypridd Council's Public Abattoir, which is under the supervision of the Health Department, is centrally situated and adequate to the needs of the locality. A resident Caretaker is appointed and meat inspection is carried out by one of the qualified Sanitary Inspectors appointed for this purpose, assisted when required, by similarly qualified members of the sanitary staff.

The normal hours of slaughtering are not later than 5 o'clock in the afternoon, although the Medical Officer of Health is empowered to grant a reasonable extension of these hours in exceptional circumstances upon application.

## SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

The number of slaughtermen holding valid licences on December 31st, 1938, issued by the Pontypridd Council in accordance with the provisions of Sec. 3 of the above Act, was 31.

Five renewals of licences, as well as one new application, were approved by the Council in the course of the year, and certificates granted.

Electrical stunning equipment is installed in the Public Abattoir. One set is provided on the basement floor for dealing with pigs, and a more powerful type, capable of operating three pairs of tongs simultaneously, on the ground floor, for use, more particularly, in stunning sheep and other small animals.

Section 1 of the Act is applicable within this area to sheep, ewes, wethers, rams and lambs.

Captive-bolt pistols, provided by the butchers themselves, are used for the larger animals at the Public Abattoir, while the proprietors of the local private slaughterhouses employ approved captive-bolt pistols for all slaughtering purposes.

### PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

Notices of intended slaughter respecting 103 pigs were received by the Health Department in accordance with the above Regulations, and all the carcasses and organs were examined by members of the Sanitary staff. The corresponding figure for the previous year was 125.

### PLACES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED IN THE DISTRICT.

Fried-fish shops .....	33
Butchers making sausages, faggots, etc. ..	31
Shops retailing ice-cream.....	49

### MARKETS.

Pontypridd possesses in the centre of the town a large and well conducted market, which is held on each Wednesday and Saturday throughout the year. Regular visits are paid by the Sanitary Inspectors for the purpose of keeping fish, fruit, meat and other foods under observation, and at the same time securing the disposal of garbage and refuse with the minimum nuisance.

This trade refuse is burned in a one-cell incinerator erected in a shed close to the building. Owing to the close proximity of offices and business premises, care has constantly to be exercised by the persons in charge in order to avoid nuisance, which has led to occasional complaint from persons residing or employed in the vicinity.

Close co-operation is maintained between the Health Department and the Market Authorities.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ADULTERATION ACT, 1928.

The Superintendent of Police, "B" Division, Glamorgan Constabulary, has kindly supplied the following table giving a summary of the articles sampled under the above Act, together with the results as reported by the Public Analyst, and particulars of Police Court proceedings in the case of those articles found to be not genuine.

Article Analysed.	Total Samples.	Gen- uine.	Not Genuine.
New Milk .....	47	45	2
Pepper .....	1	1	—
Butter .....	4	4	—
Lard .....	3	3	—
Margarine .....	3	3	—
Tapioca .....	1	1	—
Flour .....	1	1	—
Soda .....	2	2	—
Boiled Sweets .....	1	1	—
Figs .....	1	1	—
Dried Mint.....	1	1	—
Baking Powder .....	1	1	—
Sultanas .....	1	1	—
Peas .....	1	1	—
Mixed Peel.....	1	1	—
Beer.....	1	1	—
Corned Beef .....	1	1	—
Cider .....	1	1	—
Mixed Spice .....	1	1	—
Mustard .....	1	1	—
Demarara Sugar .....	1	1	—
Beef Suet .....	2	2	—
Total .....	77	75	2

Proceedings were instituted against vendors of new milk as follows :—

(1) Selling milk containing 26 $\frac{1}{4}$ % added water. Fine £2, and analyst's fee, £1 1s. 0d.

(2) Selling milk containing 6% added water. Ordered to pay 4s. costs and analysts' fee, £1 1s. 0d.

## NUTRITION—DISSEMINATION OF KNOWLEDGE.

In a district where many are living on the poverty line, it is of the utmost importance that the family income should be spent to the best advantage. In order to assist mothers and housewives, the Health Department has available diet tables for babies and young children, and has provided leaflets which are obtainable free from our office and clinics, giving food values and specimen diets for working-class families. The Health Visitors assist in making known this information where it is most needed.

## Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases.

### SMALLPOX.

No case of smallpox was notified in 1938. This is the seventh successive year of complete freedom from this disease in the locality.

No contacts from other areas or from abroad, were reported to have entered the town during the year.

### PUBLIC VACCINATION.

The Vaccination Officer's return for the twelve months ended 31st December, 1938, is as follows :—

	Primary Vaccina- tions.	Re-Vac- cinations.	Insuscep- tible.
Pontypridd District (exclud- ing Central Homes Infirm- ary) . . . . .	99	11	1
Central Homes Infirmary. .	16	Nil.	Nil.

These figures show a slight decrease below those of last year; they remain generally few in number, doubtless owing to the virtual disappearance of smallpox from this country in recent years.

## THE PUBLIC HEALTH (SMALLPOX PREVENTION) REGULATIONS, 1917.

No vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the above Regulations during the year 1938.

## ARTIFICIAL IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA AND MEASLES.

The Pontypridd Council have approved expenditure in connection with the prophylactic inoculation of persons against diphtheria. A course of three injections of toxoid-anti-toxin floccules is usually given at intervals of one week or more. This preventive treatment is given free by the medical staff on request or on the advice of the individual's medical practitioner. There is little demand on this service.

Serum for the prophylaxis or attenuation of measles is now available on a commercial basis, but this is not yet utilised in any form by the Local Authority.

## NON-NOTIFIABLE ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The incidence of influenza was approximately normal throughout the year. Four deaths only were registered locally as compared with twelve in 1937.

Chickenpox was prevalent, while measles was below the average, with no mortality registered.

Whooping cough, the number of cases of which reached a high figure, resulted in one death.

Summer diarrhoea occurred with increased severity and caused five deaths in children below two years of age.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION.

Immediately on receipt of a notification of infectious disease, the premises are visited by a Sanitary Inspector. At these visits arrangements are made for the efficient isolation of the patient, or alternatively for the removal of the case to the Isolation Hospital. The circumstances in connection with the case, such as occupation or school of patient and contacts, sources of water supply and milk supply, probable source of infection, etc., are entered on individual record

cards. Instructions are given as to the prevention of the spread of infection, and in the case of scholars, the patients and contacts are at once excluded from school in accordance with the regulations of the Board of Education. Special consideration is given to those cases where patients or contacts are usually employed in establishments where food is prepared or sold; where civil servants are involved, the heads of their departments are informed of the circumstances.

Books from the Public or other Libraries in infected houses are collected by the Sanitary staff and disinfected before being put again into circulation. In some instances circulating libraries have requested the Health Department either to destroy such books by burning or forward them to the Isolation Hospital for the use of patients therein.

On the termination of illness, or on removal of the case to hospital, the premises are disinfected by formalin lamps or other appropriate means, sufficient disinfectants are also left with the householder. Where necessary, infected clothing, bedding, etc., is removed and dealt with at the Council's steam disinfecter.

The number of disinfections carried out during the year 1938 is as follows :—

No. of houses fumigated after infectious disease (scarlet fever, diphtheria, etc.).....	546
No. of houses fumigated after pulmonary tuberculosis .....	32
No. of houses fumigated after other diseases (cancer, etc.) .....	16
No. of houses from which bedding, infected clothing, etc., were conveyed for disinfection at the steam disinfecter.....	23
Sundry other disinfections, books, etc. ....	263

## REPLACEMENT OF DESTROYED BEDDING.

Under powers given by Section 167, s.s. 4, of the Public Health Act, 1936, the Council authorised in seven instances the free replacement of soiled bedding which had been destroyed by the order of the Department on account of infectious disease.

This action is taken only in cases of need, where the bedding is soiled beyond any possibility of cleansing or proper disinfection.



## CANCER.

In 1938 fifty deaths from Cancer (all forms) were recorded in Pontypridd—25 males and 25 females—as compared with totals of 54 in the previous year, and 49 in the year 1936.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE (OTHER THAN  
TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1938.

TABLE IX

Disease.	Total	Cases	Total
	eases notified.	admitted to hospital.	
Smallpox .....	—	—	—
Searlet Fever.....	421	274	Nil.
Diphtheria .....	110	108	4
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) .....	1	1	—
Dysentery .....	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	6	—	—
Pneumonia .....	26	—	21
Erysipelas .....	30	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	4	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica .....	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever .....	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	—	—	—
Totals .....	598	384	25

TABLE X.  
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1938.

DISEASE.	Under 1 year	1-2 years.	2-3 years	3-4 years.	4-5 years.	5-10 years.	10-15 years.	15-20 years.	20-35 years.	35-45 years.	45-65 years.	65 years and over.	All ages.
Scarlet Fever .....	5	11	31	35	87	156	69	12	14	1	—	—	421
Diphtheria .....	1	2	4	4	8	42	37	4	6	2	—	—	110
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	6
Pneumonia .....	—	—	1	2	—	2	2	5	2	2	6	4	26
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	15	4	4
Erysipelas .....	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	30
Enteric Fever .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Tuberculosis:—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	9	16	6	6	—	42
Respiratory .....	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis:—	—	1	—	—	—	1	5	3	1	1	3	—	15
Non-Respiratory .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS .....	10	14	36	42	95	204	118	36	43	19	30	8	655

TABLE XI.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED IN EACH  
WARD DURING THE YEAR 1938.

DISEASE.	Graig.	Rhondda.	Town.	Cilfynydd.	Trallwn.	Treforest.	Rhydyfelin	Totals.
Scarlet Fever.....	46	86	17	46	90	50	86	421
Diphtheria .....	25	26	4	13	8	12	22	110
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	—	2	—	1	1	2	—	6
Pneumonia .....	8	1	5	7	5	1	3	26
Erysipelas .....	4	14	1	2	1	5	3	30
Ophthalmia Neonatorum..	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	4
Enteric Fever .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Tuberculosis : (Respiratory)	14	6	1	2	6	7	6	42
Tuberculosis : (Non-Respiratory) .....	4	2	1	2	2	3	1	15
Totals .....	103	139	25	73	113	80	122	655

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES TREATED AT COUNCIL'S  
ISOLATION HOSPITAL, TONTEG.

The following table gives the number of cases treated in the Isolation Hospital during the year 1938 :—

No. of cases remaining in hospital at end of 1937 35

No. of cases admitted during 1938 (including 8 diphtheria “carriers”) ..... 389

No. of cases remaining in hospital at end of 1938 29

The following shows the nature of the cases admitted during the year :—

Scarlet Fever..... 274

Diphtheria ..... 105

Diphtheria “carriers” ..... 8

Enteric Fever ..... 1

Erysipelas ..... 1

Total ..... 389

## SCARLET FEVER.

An exceedingly large number of cases of scarlet fever occurred for the second year in succession, and the Authority's hospital accommodation barely sufficed to deal with all those needing isolation and hospital treatment.

The notifications of this disease during the year under review totalled 421, as compared with 381 in 1937.

Of the above, 290 were admitted to hospital, these being 69 per cent. of the total. Sixteen of these were sent by arrangement to the Caerphilly Isolation Hospital, while the remainder were accommodated at the Tonteg Isolation Hospital.

The Joint Smallpox Hospital at Mynydd Mayo was open for the reception of convalescent cases of this disease at the commencement of the year and was finally closed on May 14th. Ninety-one children spent the second half of their term of isolation at this hospital during this period.

The remaining 131 patients were treated at home, where circumstances permitted satisfactory isolation, with small risk of conveying infection to others. No deaths resulted either in hospital or otherwise, although a proportion of the cases were of a severe type. The following complications were recorded at Tonteg Hospital:—

Otorrhoea .....	18
Rheumatism .....	6
Adenitis, and other septic conditions..	11

In addition, seven were double infections; six being associated with chickenpox and one with whooping cough.

The average duration of treatment of all hospital cases was 42 days; the total patient days amounted to 12,343.

No definite "return" cases were observed.

## DIPHTHERIA.

The incidence of diphtheria in this town was well above the average, but at no time was any concentration of cases observed in any district or school. One hundred and ten

cases were notified in all. With the exception of two all were admitted to hospital; one hundred and five at Tonteg Isolation Hospital and three at the Caerphilly Isolation Hospital, by arrangement with that Authority. Many were of the "gravis" type, and four deaths took place. No return cases were known to have occurred.

The average length of stay in hospital was 25 days, the total patient days being 2,786.

No patients are discharged until two consecutive throat or nasal, or both, swabs have been obtained.

All diphtheria contacts in the patients' homes are visited by the staff and swabbed on one or more occasions.

Ampoules (8,000 units) of diphtheria antitoxin to the number of 138 were issued free to local medical practitioners for use in their practice.

### **Ascertainment and Treatment of Diphtheria "Carriers."**

In addition to the above-mentioned swabbing of all contacts of cases of diphtheria, a careful check is made of notifications received, in order to ascertain whether there is any concentration of cases in one or more districts or schools. If such a focus of infection is suspected through the occurrence of a group of cases amongst the scholars of a school or school department, arrangements are immediately made for all children to be examined by the school medical staff, and those with enlarged tonsils or suspicious throats are swabbed. The same routine is carried out should a large number of cases of tonsillitis be reported by the head teacher from any school.

On account of the prevalence of sore throat in one department of an elementary school in this town, twenty-seven throat swabs were taken and examined; all were reported to be negative for the diphtheria bacillus.

Eight "carriers" who were home contacts of cases, or who were resident in the Central Homes, were admitted into Tonteg Isolation Hospital and were treated there until free from infection. The average length of stay in hospital of these "carriers" was 16 days; the total number of patient days amounting to 130.

One "carrier" of diphtheria, who remained at home under the care of her own medical practitioner, resisted all forms of treatment until eventually arrangements were made for the removal of her tonsils and adenoids, after which the infective condition cleared up.

## ENTERIC FEVER.

One case of enteric fever was notified and treated at the Tonteg Isolation Hospital at the latter end of 1938. The infective organism was found to be the *B. typhosus*, and this exceptionally severe case terminated fatally in the following January.

## PNEUMONIA.

The number of notifications of primary pneumonia, twenty-six in the course of the year, did not exceed the average.

No organised arrangements exist locally for the hospital treatment of these patients, but all cases are visited in their homes by the Council's Health Visitors with a view to ascertaining that proper nursing facilities are provided. Where the nursing is found to be inadequate, the results of their enquiries are reported to the Queen's Nursing Association, who are usually able to offer the needed assistance. None was sent to hospital or treated directly by the Local Authority.

## ERYSIPELAS.

This disease was somewhat prevalent, and 30 notifications were received, as compared with 11 in the previous year. One patient was treated at Tonteg Isolation Hospital, while four others requiring the nursing facilities of an institution were sent to the Central Homes Infirmary at the cost of the Local Authority. No deaths were certified locally from this cause in 1938.

## ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS.

No cases were reported and no deaths were attributed to this disease in the locality in the course of the year.

## CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.

No cases were notified and no deaths from this disease were recorded for the Pontypridd area during 1938.

## ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

No cases of encephalitis lethargica were notified locally, nor were any deaths in this area attributed to the late effects of this disease during the year.



## PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action has been taken by the Pontypridd Council under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes. The Pontypridd Education Committee, however, employ a part-time oculist who periodically visits Pontypridd and examines any cases of eye injury or eye disease amongst children up to school-leaving age, which may be referred to him for expert advice or treatment.

The care of adult blind persons in the Pontypridd area is vested in the Pontypridd and Districts Institution for the Blind, and the report of that body for the year ended 31st March, 1939, shows that there were 52 men and women on the registers at the end of the year. The report, in a reference to the Training Centre, states that a very high standard of progress is being maintained, the pupils showing a keen interest in all they do. At the end of the year eight persons were undergoing training in various appropriate crafts.

The Pontypridd Council continue to grant free travel on the Council's transport services to all blind persons residing within this district. In the case of blind persons living outside the area, facilities are given to such persons for them to travel free to and from the workshops as far as the Council's services extend.

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

TABLE XII.

Noti- fied.	Cases.		Vision Un-im- paired.	Vision Im- paired.	Total Blind- ness.	Deaths.
	Treated.					
	At Home.	In Hos- pital.				
4	4	—	4	—	—	—

## TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality During 1938.

TABLE XIII.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respira- tory.		Non- Respira- tory.		Respira- tory.		Non- Respira- tory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
1 to 5 years .....	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
5 to 15 years .....	3	1	4	2	1	1	1	—
15 to 25 years .....	7	10	2	2	5	9	1	2
25 to 35 years .....	5	3	—	—	6	1	—	1
35 to 45 years .....	3	3	—	1	4	1	—	—
45 to 55 years .....	3	1	1	—	4	2	—	1
55 to 65 years .....	2	—	1	1	1	1	—	—
65 and upwards .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals .....	24	18	8	7	21	15	2	7

## NOTIFICATION.

During the year 1938, forty-five deaths from Tuberculosis (all forms) were registered, of which 35 (or 77.3 per cent) were already notified to the Medical Officer of Health.

In cases of death from tuberculosis not previously notified to the M.O.H., letters are sent to the certifying medical practitioners requiring an explanation of their failure to comply with the statutory requirements. There was no evidence of wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

## TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATES.

The local death rate from tuberculosis per 1,000 of the population for 1938 and the previous four years was as follows :—

	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934
Respiratory ..	0.93	0.99	0.7	0.75	1.02
Non - respira- tory ....	0.24	0.14	0.22	0.19	0.26
All forms of Tu- berculosis .	1.17	1.13	0.92	0.94	1.28

## THE PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

The above Regulations prohibit the employment in connection with a dairy of any person who is suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis if his employment involves the milking of cows, the treatment of milk, or the handling of vessels for containing milk. If a Local Authority, on the report of the Medical Officer of Health, is satisfied that a person residing in their district is so employed, and suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, and is in an infectious state, they may require such person to discontinue his employment. Provision is made for the compensation of any person who sustains damage by reason of the exercise of any of the powers of these Regulations if he himself is not in default.

The Local Authority took no action under the Regulations during the year.

### PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925—SECTION 62.

### AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936—SECTION 172.

The above Sections of the Public Health Acts authorise the removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis where it is proved to the satisfaction of a Court of Summary Jurisdiction that the lodging or accommodation available for that person is such that proper precautions to prevent the spread of infection cannot be taken or that such precautions are not being taken; and that serious risk of infection is thereby caused to other persons.

No action was taken under this head by the Health Department in 1938.

TABLE XIV.  
CAUSES OF DEATH, 1938.

Cause of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers . . . .	—	—	—
Measles . . . . .	—	—	—
Scarlet fever . . . . .	—	—	—
Whooping cough . . . . .	1	—	1
Diphtheria . . . . .	2	2	4

TABLE XIV.—Continued.

## CAUSES OF DEATH, 1938.

Cause of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total
Influenza .....	4	—	4
Enecephalitis lethargica.....	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever .....	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of respiratory system....	21	15	36
Other tuberculous diseases .....	2	7	9
Syphilis .....	1	1	2
General paralysis of the insane : tabes dorsalis .....	—	1	1
Cancer, malignant disease .....	25	25	50
Diabetes .....	4	4	8
Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.....	26	25	51
Heart disease.....	66	44	110
Aneurysm .....	1	—	1
Other circulatory diseases .....	22	16	38
Bronchitis .....	21	16	37
Pneumonia (all forms).....	12	9	21
Other respiratory diseases .....	8	1	9
Peptic ulcer .....	2	—	2
Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years) .....	4	1	5
Appendicitis .....	—	—	—
Cirrhosis of liver .....	1	—	1
Other diseases of liver, etc.....	2	1	3
Other digestive diseases .....	9	5	14
Acute and chronic nephritis .....	8	5	13
Puerperal sepsis.....	—	1	1
Other puerperal causes .....	—	3	3
Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc. ....	11	9	20
Senility .....	12	13	25
Suicide .....	2	1	3
Other violence .....	16	5	21
Other defined diseases.....	25	11	36
Causes ill-defined or unknown.....	—	—	—
Diarrhoea 2 years and over.....	—	—	—
Totals .....	308	221	529

TABLE XV.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1938.  
DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 week.	1—2 weeks.	2—3 weeks.	3—4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under one year.
All causes :										
Certified .....	17	5	3	1	26	7	4	7	4	48
Uncertified .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chickenpox .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria & Croup..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abdominal										
Tuberculosis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous										
Meningitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tubercular										
Diseases .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Convulsions .....	1	1	1	—	3	—	1	2	1	7
Laryngitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	2	1	—	—	3	—	1	3	1	8
Diarrhoea .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis .....	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	3
Gastritis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Syphilis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation, Overlying	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Injury at Birth.....	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Atelectasis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations .....	1	—	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	6
Premature Birth .....	9	2	—	—	11	1	—	—	—	12
Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus .....	1	1	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	3
Other Causes .....	1	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	3
Totals .....	17	5	3	1	26	7	4	7	4	48

## TABLE XVI.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1938.  
DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE IN THE SEVERAL  
WARDS.

---

	No. of Deaths.
Graig .....	6
Rhondda.....	9
Town .....	3
Cilfynydd .....	6
Trallwn .....	10
Treforest.....	10
Rhydyfelin .....	4
<hr/>	
Total for URBAN DISTRICT ....	48
<hr/>	



BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY,  
MATERNAL DEATH-RATES, AND CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN  
INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1938.

ENGLAND AND WALES, LONDON, 126 GREAT TOWNS AND  
148 SMALLER TOWNS.

(Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	Ponty- pridd	England and Wales.	126 County Boro's & Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Popula- tions 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Admin- istra- tive County.
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Rates per 1,000 Population.

Births :					
Live .....	14.4	15.1	15.0	15.4	13.4
Still .....	1.09	0.60	0.65	0.60	0.48
DEATHS :					
All Causes .....	13.7	11.6	11.7	11.0	11.4
Typhoid & Par- atyphoid fev- ers .....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles .....	0.00	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06
Scarlet fever ..	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Diphtheria ....	0.10	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05
Influenza ....	0.10	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06
NOTIFICA- TIONS :					
Smallpox ....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Scarlet fever ..	10.91	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05
Diphtheria ....	2.90	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90
Enteric fever ..	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas ....	0.72	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46
Pneumonia ..	1.67	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98

## BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, etc.—CONTINUED.

	Pontypridd.	England and Wales.	126 County Boro's & Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Administrative County.
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Rates per 1,000 Live Births.

Deaths under 1 year of age ..	87.1	53	57	51	57
Deaths from : Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	9.8	5.5	7.8	3.6	13.1
MATERNAL MORTALITY :					
Puerperal Sepsis .....	1.82	0.89	Not available.		
Others .....	5.45	2.19			
Total .....	7.27	3.08			

Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still).

MATERNAL MORTALITY :					
Puerperal Sepsis .....	1.68	0.86	Not available.		
Others .....	5.06	2.11			
Total .....	6.74	2.97			
NOTIFICATIONS :					
Puerperal fever	19.12	14.42	18.08	12.51	3.53
Puerperal pyrexia					15.46

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